

Laboratory Deadline for Quality Assurance Plan approaching May 6, 2006

A reminder to applicants and their agents working on marine dredging projects (along with other projects that will generate material slated for open water disposal). By May 6, 2006 all laboratories submitting sediment testing data must have an approved Laboratory Quality Assurance Plan (LQAP). After this deadline, all data reports from labs that DO NOT have an approved LQAP on record at the Army Corps of Engineers WILL NOT be accepted. All applicants and their agents must verify that the laboratory they are working with (as well as its' sub-contractors) has, or is working towards, a valid LQAP before retaining their services. The Regulatory Division's Marine Analysis Section is getting the word out to agents directly, has already been in communication with the various labs and will insert similar language into new sampling plans. However, MAS intends to use every instance to remind agents and applicants of this deadline, as data that comes in from labs after May 6th cannot be used for project evaluation.

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